

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 058924

TOSEC 7

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: SPECIAL SUMMARY NUMBER 3

JOHN PATTERSON KIDNAPPING

1. THERE HAS NOT BEEN ANY CONTACT FROM THE KIDNAPPERS, AND NEWS OF THE KIDNAPPING HAS NOT YET APPEARED IN THE PRESS.

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2. NORTH KOREA PROPOSES PEACE AGREEMENT WITH US: FOREIGN MINISTER HO TAM PROPOSED MARCH 25 AT THE FIFTH SUPREME PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY THAT DISCUSSIONS BEGIN WITH THE US TO REPLACE THE MILITARY ARMISTICE WITH A PEACE AGREEMENT. HE SAID THAT HIGHER RANKING DELEGATES THAN ARE NOW AT PANMUNJOM SHOULD BE APPOINTED TO DISCUSS A FOUR POINT DPRK PEACE PROPOSAL WHICH INCLUDES THE REMOVAL OF US FORCES FROM SOUTH KOREA. THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT A US-DPRK PEACE AGREEMENT IS A PREREQUISITE FOR THE REMOVAL OF TENSIONS AND THE CONSOLIDATION OF PEACE BETWEEN THE TWO KOREAS. SUBSEQUENTLY, A LETTER TO THE US CONGRESS INCORPORATING HO TAM'S PROPOSALS WAS ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY. (TICKER)

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COMMENT: IN THE PAST YEAR NORTH KOREA HAS MADE A SERIES

OF PROPOSALS DESIGNED TO REMOVE THE US FROM THE PENINSULA BY A BILATERAL US-DPRK AGREEMENT. A SIMILAR LETTER WAS SENT TO THE US CONGRESS IN APRIL 1973. THE POINTS MADE IN THE NEWEST PROPOSAL ARE STANDARD, BUT THIS ONE APPEARS TO BE MORE EXTENSIVE AND TO OFFER MORE FLEXIBILITY FOR NEGOTIATION.

3. CHINESE-INDIAN RELATIONS: MUTUAL SUSPICIONS WILL CONTINUE TO LIMIT RAPPROCHEMENT, BUT COMMON INTEREST IN SECURING THE REGIONAL STATUS QUO PROVIDES THE BASIS FOR SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS BETWEEN INDIA AND THE PRC. (STATE)

COMMENT: THE CLIMATE FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PRC AND INDIA HAS MODERATED SOMEWHAT IN THE LAST YEAR. LITTLE CAN BE EXPECTED IN THE SHORT RUN, HOWEVER, UNTIL THE BANGLADESH PRISONER ISSUE IS RESOLVED. EVEN THEN, THE INDIAN RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIETS WILL CONTINUE TO LIMIT SEVERELY THE EXTENT TO WHICH RELATIONS WITH THE PRC CAN IMPROVE.

NOTE

4. NETHERLANDS OIL BOYCOTT: ALTHOUGH THE SAUDIS ARE NOT READY TO COMMIT THEMSELVES TO LIFTING THE BOYCOTT, DUTCH OFFICIALS HOPE THE KUWAITIS WILL PROPOSE AN END TO IT AT THE ARAB LEAGUE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN TUNIS. (STATE) RUSH

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